

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides an IR-sensitive composition, which includes: a polymeric binder; and a free radical polymerizable system

5 consisting of: at least one component selected from unsaturated free radical polymerizable monomers, oligomers which are free radical polymerizable and polymers containing C=C bonds in the backbone and/or in the side chain groups; and an initiator system, which includes:

10 (a) at least one compound capable of absorbing IR radiation; (b) at least one compound capable of producing radicals; and (c) at least one carboxylic co-initiator, provided that the total acid number of the polymeric binder is 70 mg KOH/g or less. The present invention further provides a printing plate precursor, a process for preparing the printing plate and a method of producing an image.